



Alan German & Chris Taylor
Ottawa PC Users' Group

May 6, 2026



Downloading Videos

- I was using savefrom.net to download videos
- They recently made it unusable for Canadians
- I don't have a VPN and don't know how to use them
- What other sites do people recommend?

savefrom.net

Discontinuation of Service in Canada

Dear Savefrom User:

As you may have heard, our industry has been under strenuous attacks by certain Canadian copyright holders. Because of these attacks, it has become financially impractical for Savefrom to continue to provide services in Canada.

Accordingly, Savefrom will be terminating its services in Canada.

Ma Vo



Three Alternatives

- I use the free versions of:

RealPlayer Downloader (<https://www.real.com/>)

Video DownloadHelper (<https://v10.downloadhelper.net/>)
as an extension to Firefox

- For some videos both may work, for others only one of the two works, and yet for others none of the two will work
- I was not aware of [savefrom.net](https://www.savefrom.net/) and I take note as a third alternative; it seems to work if I activate my free version of ProtonVPN.

Share

AtlasOS

- Essentially a stripped-down version of Windows 11
- The developer says it is *“a kinder” Windows experience, reducing bloatware and optimizing performance for enthusiasts, gamers, and privacy-conscious individuals*”
- Legitimate Windows 11 licence required
- Latest version: Atlas v0.5.0 (October 21 2025)

<https://atlasos.net/>

They Built a Better Windows Than Microsoft. For Free.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMCEQFTxFZA>

Richard Bradford)



YouTubeTech

5 tools that make you harder to hack

- From *the intelligence*
 1. Password managers
 2. Multi-factor authentication
 3. Breach checkers
 4. Data removal services
 5. Privacy tools
- Guess which four I use on a regular basis
 - and why I don't use one
- Which ones do you use?



Share

Seeing AI

- I am vision impaired and use a combination of magnification tools and screen reading
- A pretty neat app on the Android store (as well as Apple store) called *Seeing AI* is worth sharing.
- While this tool is designed for the vision impaired and blind, as most of us age we have trouble seeing smaller print so it's a useful share for lots of us!
- Its features are too numerous to mention and giving a demonstration of it over Zoom really isn't feasible
- When I'm not at home, the app uses my phone's camera and speakers to read printed matter to me

<https://www.seeingai.com>

Jeff Dubois



The app speaks the text in the image

The circled icon causes it to process the text using OCR and display the result as a larger version



WD Elements 1TB Portable External Hard Drive, Black / Gray


' The WD Elements 1TB Portable External Hard Drive features a flexible interface with fast transfer speeds. This device provides you with a place to store your music, songs, videos and photos. The WD Elements 1TB external hard drive will hold up to 666,000 photos, up to 285,000 songs or up to 56 hours of HD video. This external hard drive is



Describe

5:14 80%

←



The image shows the back of a Western Digital product box, placed on a keyboard. The box has printed text and a label with product information.

1. **Printed Text:**
The text mentions trademarks and product specifications related to Western Digital.

Ask Seeing AI Save Share Explore



1. **Printed Text:**

- The text mentions trademarks and product specifications related to Western Digital Technologies, Inc. It explains the storage capacity terms, defining gigabyte (GB) and terabyte (TB) in terms of bytes. It also notes that actual accessible capacity may vary depending on the operating environment.

The address for Western Digital is provided: 2255 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine



Ask Seeing AI



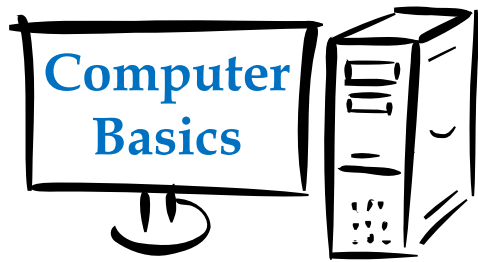
Save



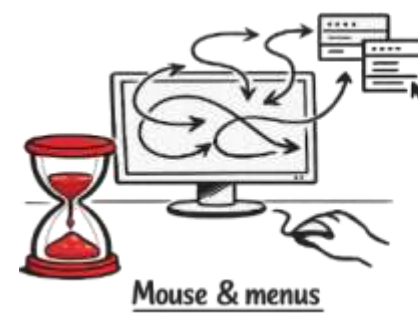
Share



Explore



Keyboard shortcuts #11



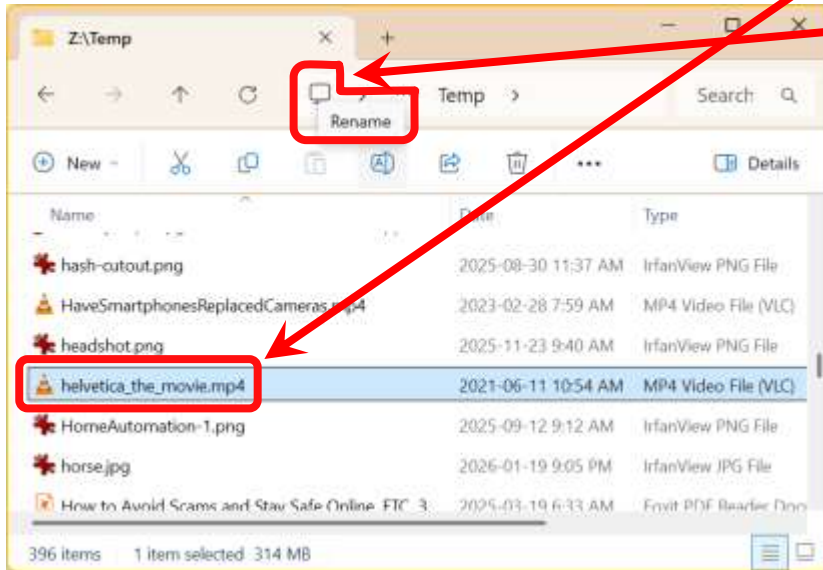
- Renaming files in File Explorer

Instead of:

- selecting file & clicking
- **Rename** on toolbar

Or even worse:

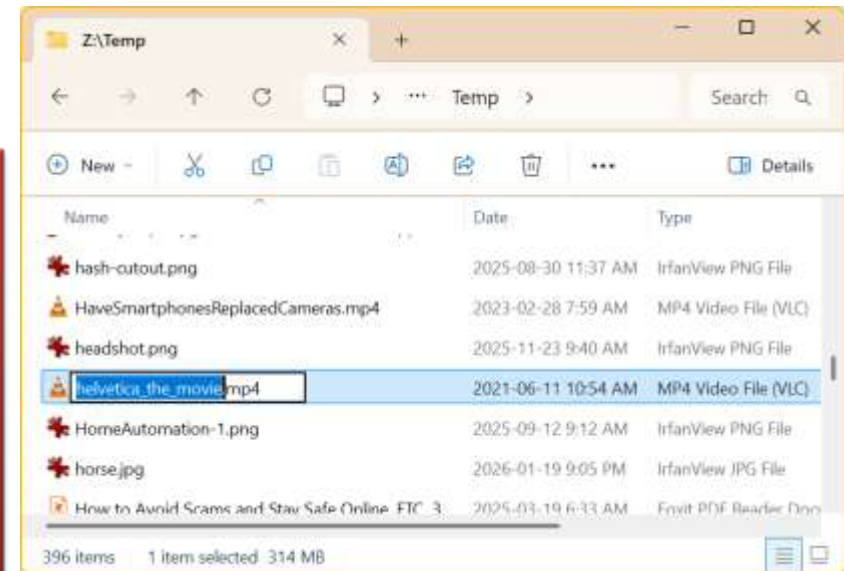
- right-clicking & choosing
- **Show more options > Rename**



With file selected, press

F2

- highlights filename (excluding file extension)
- type new name & press **Enter** key, or
 - to just change part of name hit left or right arrow key first
- **Ctrl-Z** to undo name change





Disposable Windows for Maximum Security



YouTubeTech

- Also a follow-up to last week's item on virtual machines
- Using Windows Sandbox
 - available in Windows Pro, Enterprise, or Education
- Provides a Windows environment for testing
 - doesn't affect your normal Windows configuration
 - close the Sandbox & everything in it disappears
- If you need persistence, use a full VM
 - e.g. VirtualBox (<https://www.virtualbox.org/>)

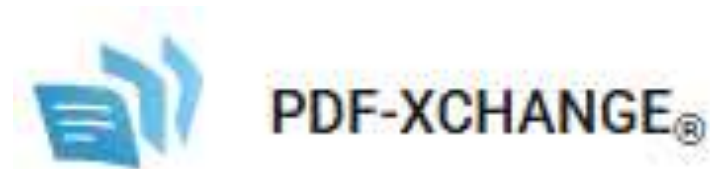
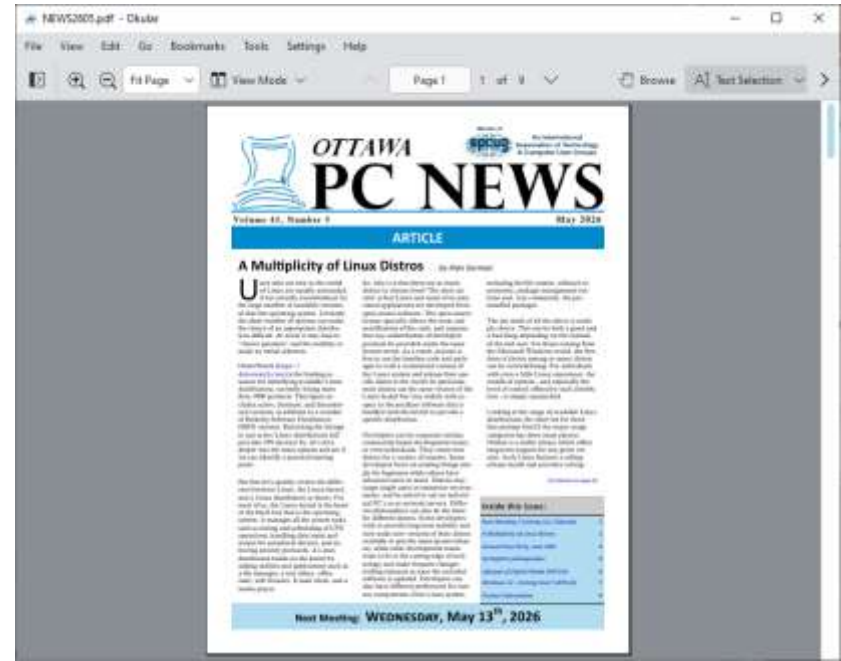
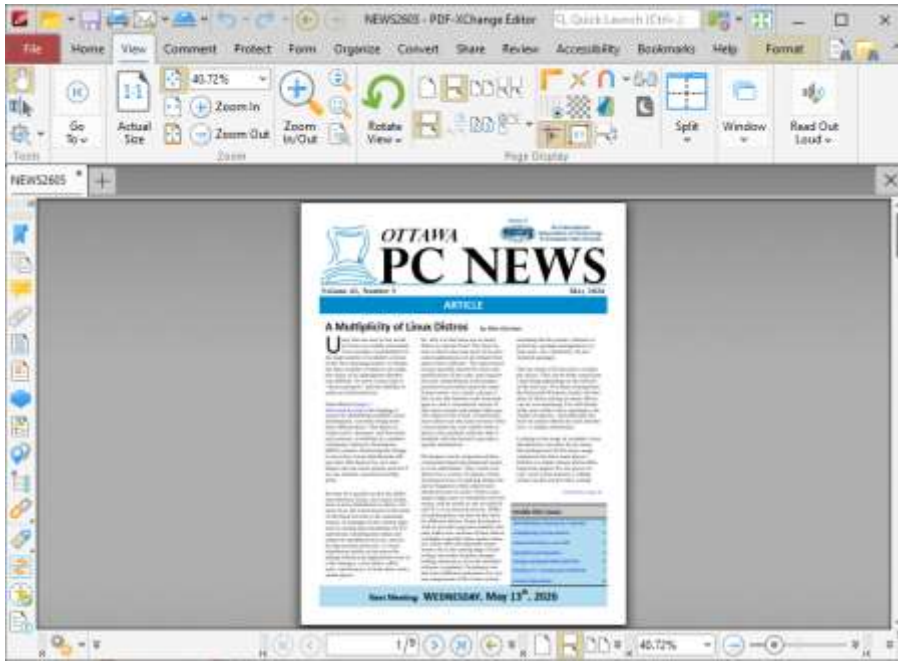
Dave Plummer

- retired software engineer for Microsoft

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jjGQCGHjuw>



Two-By-Two *PDF Viewers*



Simple Requirements

- Primarily just reading PDF files
- Mainly Fit-page and Fit-Width views
- Page navigation (forward and backward) controls
- Cut and paste text from PDF file
- Annotate (yellow highlighting) PDF documents
- *PDF-XChange Viewer* was my software of choice but this viewer has recently been replaced by *PDF-XChange Editor* that has many more features
- *Okular* is a KDE (Linux) tool that has simpler tools and is a cross-platform solution
- There is a free version of *PDF-XChange Editor* while *Okular* is open-source



PDF-XChange Editor / Editor Plus

- ✓ Download the free version and test out the software - 70% of features are unrestricted.
- ✓ Create stunning documents that conform to international ISO specifications for PDF files.
- ✓ Make a single payment and use the software indefinitely with our perpetual license model.

Current version: 10.8.5.410

Supported operating systems: All current versions of MS Windows operating systems, and previous versions that are maintained with service updates from Microsoft, are supported for this product.

Prices start at **USD \$62.00** for Editor and **USD \$79.00** for Editor Plus



PDF-XChange Editor

PDF-XChange Editor Plus

DOWNLOAD

DOWNLOAD

VIEW PRICING



<https://www.pdf-xchange.com/product/pdf-xchange-editor>

NEWS2605 - PDF-XChange Editor

File Home View Comment Protect Form Organize Convert Share Review Accessibility Bookmarks Help

Hand Select Text Select Comments Find

Tools View

Edit Text Edit Objects Add Selection

Objects

Typewriter Sticky Note Highlight Text Underline

Comment

Stamp

Add/Edit Links Add Links to URLs Remove All Web-Links Add Links to Barcodes

Links

Batch Link Sign Document Protect

NEWS2605

Thumbnails

9 items

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OTTAWA PC NEWS

Volume 43, Number 5 May 2026

ARTICLE

A Multiplicity of Linux Distros by Alan German

Users who are new to the world of Linux are usually astounded, if not actually overwhelmed, by the large number of available versions of this free operating system. Certainly the sheer number of options can make the choice of an appropriate distribution difficult. At worst it may lead to “choice paralysis” and the inability to make an initial selection.

DistroWatch (<https://distrowatch.com>) is the leading re-

So, why is it that there are so many distros to choose from? The short answer is that Linux and most of its associated applications are developed from open-source software. The open-source license specially allows the reuse and modification of the code, and requires that any redistribution of developed products be provided under the same licence terms. As a result, anyone is free to use the baseline code and packages to craft a customized version of the Linux system and release their spe-

including the file system, software repositories, package management systems and, very commonly, the pre-installed packages.

The net result of all the above is multiple choice. This can be both a good and a bad thing depending on the outlook of the end user. For those coming from the Microsoft Windows world, the freedom of choice among so many distros can be overwhelming. For individuals with even a little Linux experience, the

Options... W: 215.90 mm X: H: 279.40 mm Y: 1/9 123.28%

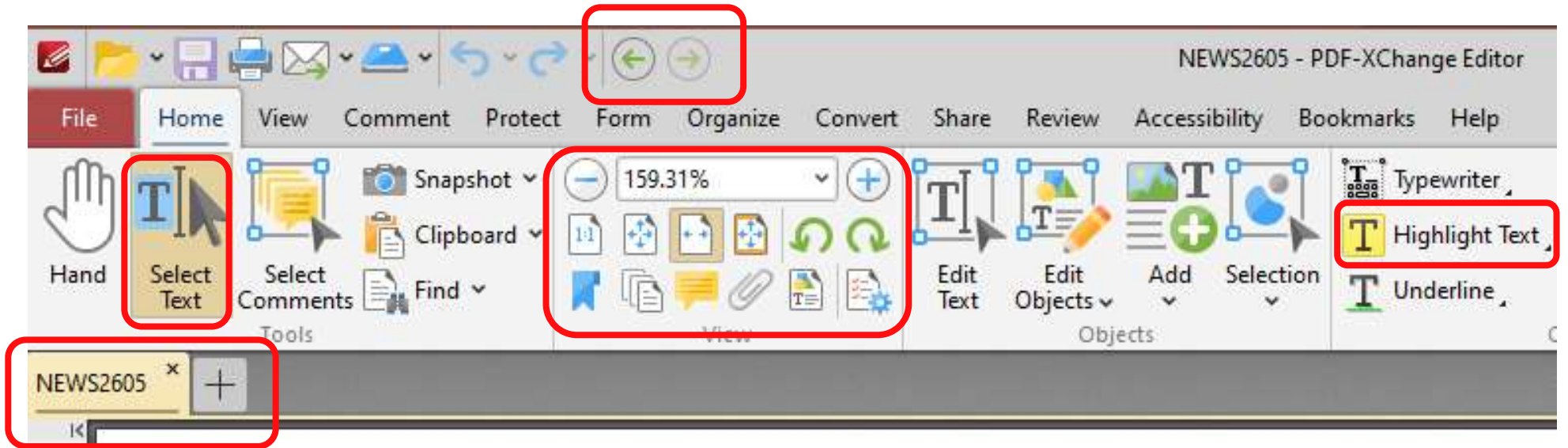
Select text



Page navigation



Highlighter



Multiple Tabs



Page views



Okular

The Universal Document Viewer

Multi-platform, fast and packed with features, Okular allows you to read PDF documents, comics and EPub books, browse images, visualize Markdown documents, and much more.

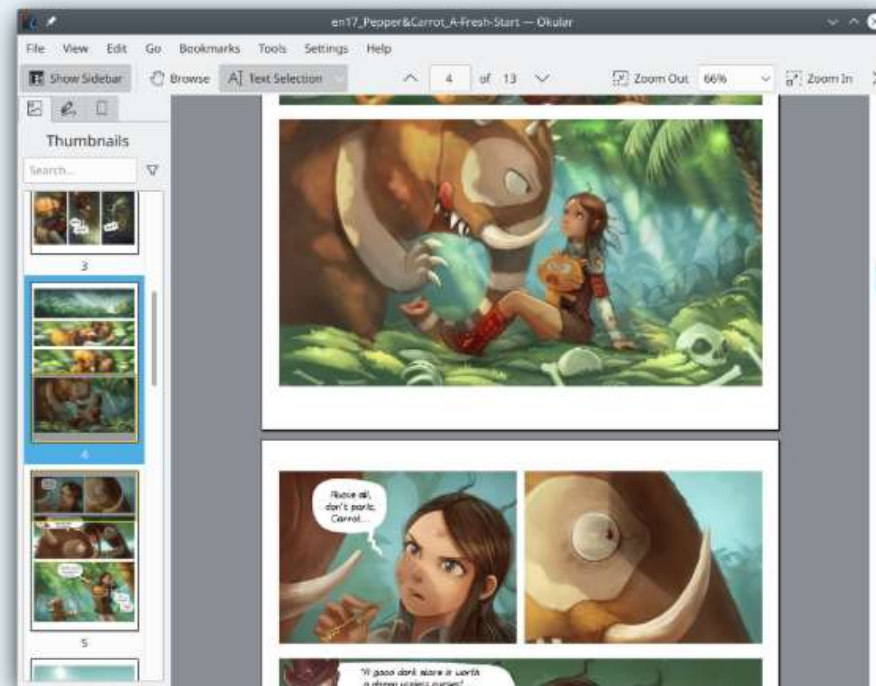


Illustration from David Revoy CC-BY-SA-4.0

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Thumbnails

Search...

1

2

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Users who are new to the world of Linux are usually astounded, if not actually overwhelmed, by the large number of available versions of this free operating system. Certainly the sheer number of options can make the choice of an appropriate distribution difficult. At worst it may lead to "choice paralysis" and the inability to make an initial selection.

DistroWatch (<https://distrowatch.com>) is the leading resource for identifying available Linux distributions, currently listing more than 1000 products. This figure includes active, dormant, and discontinued versions, in addition to a number of Berkeley Software Distribution (BSD) variants. Restricting the listings to just active Linux distributions still provides 200 choices. So, let's dive

So, why is it that there are so many distros to choose from? The short answer is that Linux and most of its associated applications are developed from open-source software. The open-source license specially allows the reuse and modification of the code, and requires that any redistribution of developed products be provided under the same license terms. As a result, anyone is free to use the baseline code and packages to craft a customized version of the Linux system and release their specific distro to the world. In particular, most distros use the same version of the Linux kernel but vary widely with respect to the ancillary software that is bundled with the kernel to provide a specific distribution.

Developers can be corporate entities, community-based development teams

including the file system, software repositories, package management systems and, very commonly, the pre-installed packages.

The net result of all the above is multiple choice. This can be both a good and a bad thing depending on the outlook of the end user. For those coming from the Microsoft Windows world, the freedom of choice among so many distros can be overwhelming. For individuals with even a little Linux experience, the wealth of options - and especially the level of control offered by each distribution - is simply unmatched.

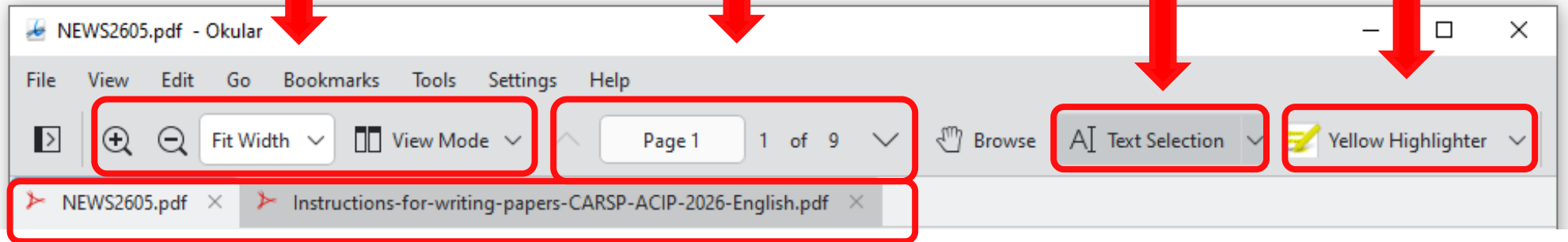
Looking at the range of available Linux distributions, the short list for those that perhaps best fit the major usage categories has three main players. Debian is a stable release which offers

Page views

Page navigation

Highlighter

Select text



Multiple Tabs

- Browse Ctrl+1
- Zoom Ctrl+2
- Area Selection Ctrl+3
- Text Selection Ctrl+4
- Table Selection Ctrl+5
- Magnifier Ctrl+6
- Annotations F6

Digitally Sign...

Speak Whole Document

Speak From Current Page

Speak Current Page

Stop Speaking

Pause/Resume Speaking

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 13th

Ask the Geeks!

OPCUG Geeks: Alan Germa
Hope, Steve Parker, Tom Tr

This month's meeting will t
session. We will have a pan
"geeks" (or are they "experts"?) available to answer all
of your computer-related questions. At least. they will
provide the answers provided that they have sufficient

ng Up...

dy Q&A session

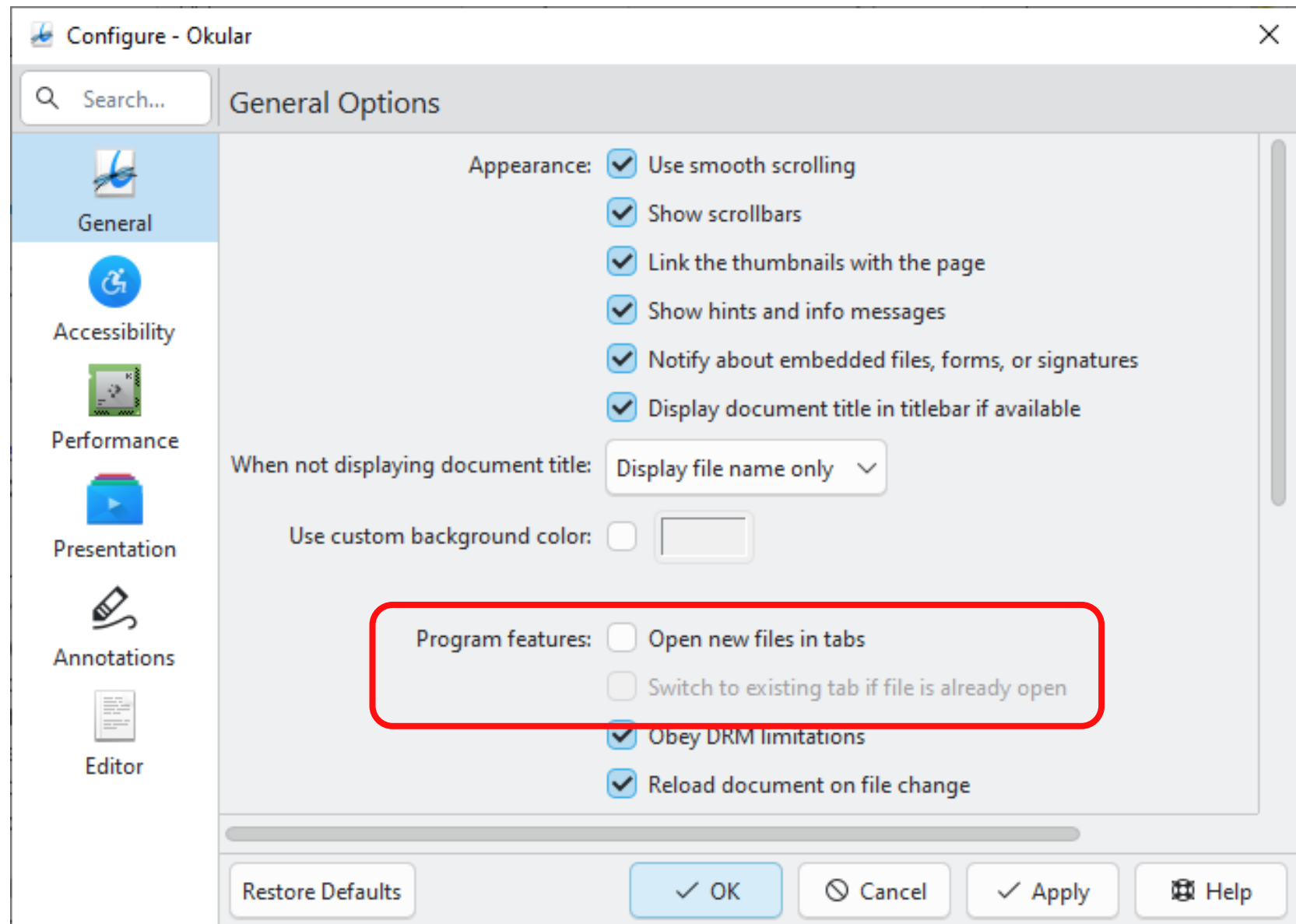
PM)

za Night (must register,

Intelligence (AI): fun and

ng Competition (particip

See all our scheduled events [here](#)



Which PDF Reader do you use?

What are its main features?

Would you recommend it to others?





Ad-free YouTube

YouTubeTech

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRJBsW7V-m4>

The screenshot shows the YouTube website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the YouTube logo, a search bar, and a microphone icon. Below the navigation bar, a large black banner displays a warning message. The message includes the YouTube logo, the title "Ad blockers violate YouTube's Terms of Service", and a list of three bullet points explaining the issue and offering solutions. At the bottom of the banner, there are two buttons: "Allow YouTube Ads" and "Try YouTube Premium". Below the buttons, there is a link for "Report issue" if the user is not using an ad blocker.

☰ YouTube^{CA} Search 🔍 🎤

YouTube

Ad blockers violate YouTube's Terms of Service

- It looks like you may be using an ad blocker. Video playback is blocked unless YouTube is allowlisted or the ad blocker is disabled.
- Ads allow YouTube to be used by billions worldwide.
- You can go ad-free with YouTube Premium, and creators can still get paid from your subscription.

[Allow YouTube Ads](#) [Try YouTube Premium](#)

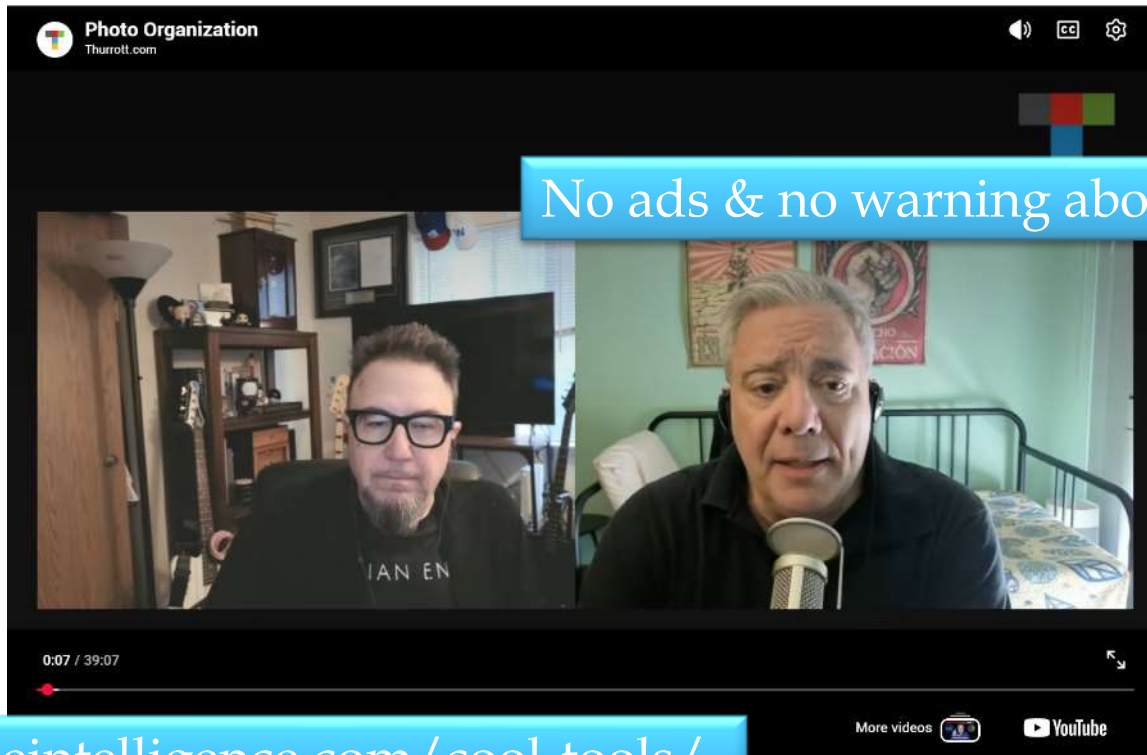
Not using an ad blocker? [Report issue](#)



Add a dash between "t" and "u"

YouTubeTech

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRJBsW7V-m4>
- Redirected automatically to
 - https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/KRJBsW7V-m4?playlist=KRJBsW7V-m4&autoplay=1&iv_load_policy=3&loop=1&start=



<https://theintelligence.com/cool-tools/>



Who owns **yout-ube.com**?

YouTubeTech

- <https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=KRJBsW7V-m4>

Perplexity

who owns the domain yout-ube.com

yout-ube.com is a domain registered through Squarespace Domains II LLC, with registration dating back to May 6, 2017, set to expire on May 6, 2026, and last updated on April 21, 2025. The registrant's contact details are privacy-protected, listing only a UK country code (GB), a generic phone/fax of +1.0, and a Squarespace whois contact form for inquiries. Unlike official YouTube domains owned by Google, this appears unrelated to Alphabet or YouTube itself. whois



Who owns **youtube-nocookie.com**?

YouTubeTech

- Redirected to:
- https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/KRJBsW7V-m4?playlist=KRJBsW7V-m4&autoplay=1&iv_load_policy=3&loop=1&start=

Perplexity

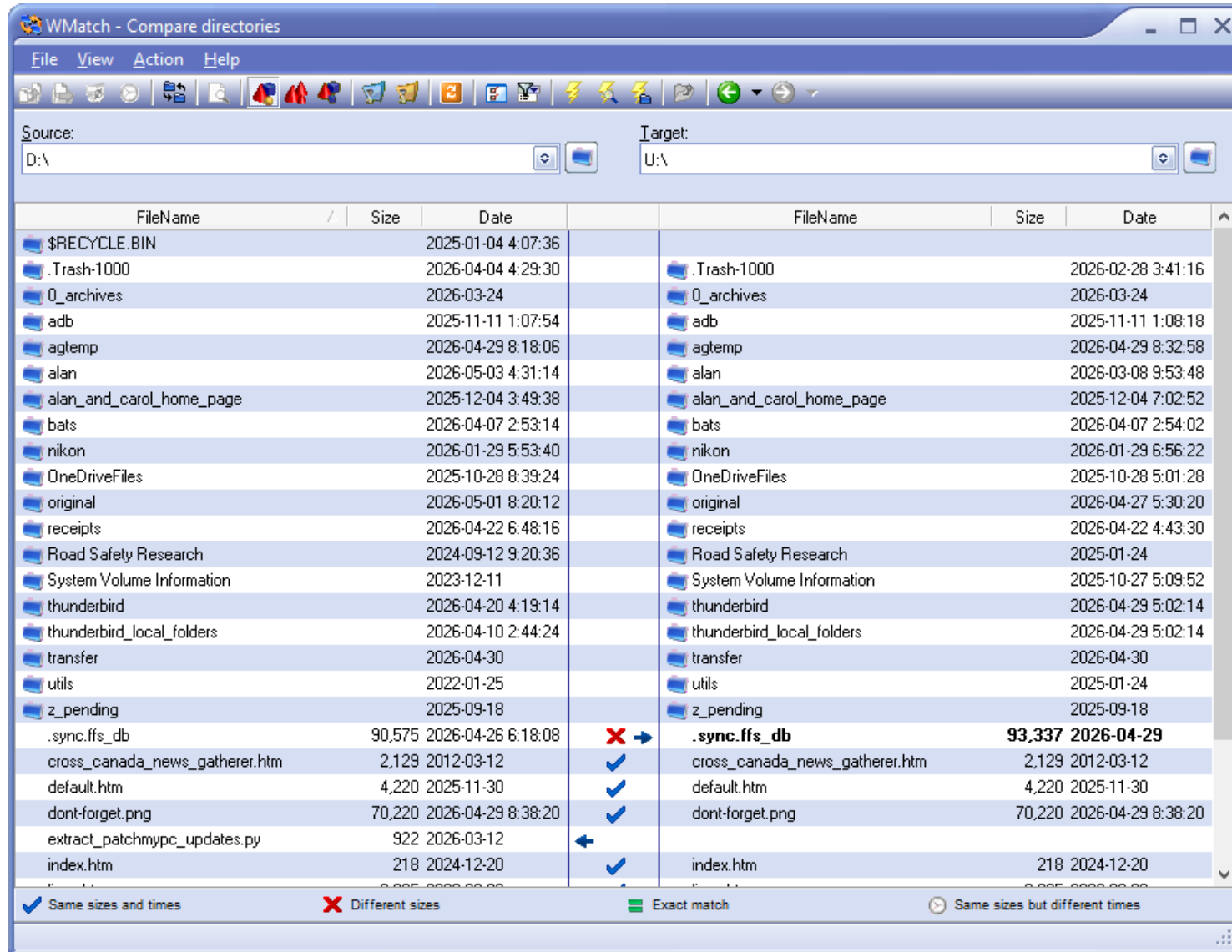
who owns the domain youtube-nocookie.com

The domain youtube-nocookie.com is registered to Google LLC and is associated with YouTube's privacy-enhanced embed feature. The WHOIS record shows Google LLC as the registrant, with MarkMonitor as the registrar and Google name servers in use. vedbex +1

This hack by [Squarespace Domains](#) restructures YouTube URLs to use a [Google-owned service](#) to eliminate ads on YouTube videos

Share

Vibe Coding - Part 6



WMatch - Compare directories

File View Action Help

Source: D:\ Target: U:\

FileName	Size	Date		FileName	Size	Date
\$RECYCLE.BIN		2025-01-04 4:07:36				
.Trash-1000		2026-04-04 4:29:30		.Trash-1000		2026-02-28 3:41:16
0_archives		2026-03-24		0_archives		2026-03-24
adb		2025-11-11 1:07:54		adb		2025-11-11 1:08:18
agtemp		2026-04-29 8:18:06		agtemp		2026-04-29 8:32:58
alan		2026-05-03 4:31:14		alan		2026-03-08 9:53:48
alan_and_carol_home_page		2025-12-04 3:49:38		alan_and_carol_home_page		2025-12-04 7:02:52
bats		2026-04-07 2:53:14		bats		2026-04-07 2:54:02
nikon		2026-01-29 5:53:40		nikon		2026-01-29 6:56:22
OneDriveFiles		2025-10-28 8:39:24		OneDriveFiles		2025-10-28 5:01:28
original		2026-05-01 8:20:12		original		2026-04-27 5:30:20
receipts		2026-04-22 6:48:16		receipts		2026-04-22 4:43:30
Road Safety Research		2024-09-12 9:20:36		Road Safety Research		2025-01-24
System Volume Information		2023-12-11		System Volume Information		2025-10-27 5:09:52
thunderbird		2026-04-20 4:19:14		thunderbird		2026-04-29 5:02:14
thunderbird_local_folders		2026-04-10 2:44:24		thunderbird_local_folders		2026-04-29 5:02:14
transfer		2026-04-30		transfer		2026-04-30
utils		2022-01-25		utils		2025-01-24
z_pending		2025-09-18		z_pending		2025-09-18
.sync.ffs_db	90,575	2026-04-26 6:18:08	✗ →	.sync.ffs_db	93,337	2026-04-29
cross_canada_news_gatherer.htm	2,129	2012-03-12	✓	cross_canada_news_gatherer.htm	2,129	2012-03-12
default.htm	4,220	2025-11-30	✓	default.htm	4,220	2025-11-30
dont-forget.png	70,220	2026-04-29 8:38:20	✓	dont-forget.png	70,220	2026-04-29 8:38:20
extract_patchmypc_updates.py	922	2026-03-12	←			
index.htm	218	2024-12-20	✓	index.htm	218	2024-12-20

Same sizes and times Different sizes Exact match Same sizes but different times

WMatch Two-Pane Prototype

Left Browse Left Right Browse Right

Compare

	File	Size	Modified	Status			File	Size	Modified	Status
1				RIGHT ONLY	^	1	.sync.ffs_db	91801	2026-03-11 11:32	RIGHT ONLY
2				RIGHT ONLY		2	0_archives\Gha...	4750895	2018-06-07 06:34	RIGHT ONLY
3				RIGHT ONLY		3	0_archives\Gha...	1120679	2019-02-12 08:50	RIGHT ONLY
4				RIGHT ONLY		4	0_archives\Gha...	642316	2018-07-19 07:42	RIGHT ONLY
5				RIGHT ONLY		5	0_archives\Gha...	30687	2018-12-31 09:21	RIGHT ONLY
6				RIGHT ONLY		6	0_archives\Gha...	270336	2019-03-12 07:22	RIGHT ONLY
7				RIGHT ONLY		7	0_archives\Gha...	57429	2019-01-29 19:48	RIGHT ONLY
8				RIGHT ONLY		8	0_archives\Mor...	610849	2019-02-10 15:48	RIGHT ONLY
9				RIGHT ONLY		9	0_archives\Mor...	142848	2019-03-23 16:14	RIGHT ONLY
10				RIGHT ONLY		10	0_archives\Mor...	788555	2018-12-29 19:07	RIGHT ONLY
11				RIGHT ONLY		11	0_archives\Mor...	3477490	2019-06-05 09:29	RIGHT ONLY
12				RIGHT ONLY		12	OneDriveFiles\...	11125988	2025-10-27 22:13	RIGHT ONLY
13				RIGHT ONLY		13	OneDriveFiles\T...	19036	2025-08-13 17:20	RIGHT ONLY
14				RIGHT ONLY		14	Road Safety ...	11935	2019-06-20 08:43	RIGHT ONLY
15				RIGHT ONLY		15	Road Safety ...	3870	2020-11-04 15:31	RIGHT ONLY
16				RIGHT ONLY		16	Road Safety ...	10106	2014-12-30 09:30	RIGHT ONLY
17				RIGHT ONLY	v	17	Road Safety ...	9639	2016-09-16 11:14	RIGHT ONLY

Next Features to Add (to really match WMatch)

To get close to the original WMatch32, the next upgrades would be:

Copy arrows between panes

→ copy to right
← copy to left



Color coding

Example:

```
green identical  
red different  
blue newer
```



Sortable columns

Click header to sort.

File filters

```
*.txt  
*.jpg  
*.c
```



Folder tree navigation

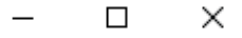
Like the original program.

✓ If you'd like, I can also show you a much more advanced version (~350 lines) that adds:

- color highlighting like WMatch
- synchronized scrolling
- copy left / copy right buttons
- dramatically faster scanning

It will start looking very close to the original PC Magazine utility.

Modern WMatch Prototype



Left

Right

	File	Size	Modified	Status
117	\$RECYCLE.BIN\...	72	2025-03-02 14:13	LEFT ONLY
118	\$RECYCLE.BIN\...	82	2023-10-23 16:49	LEFT ONLY
119	\$RECYCLE.BIN\...	138	2026-02-06 16:12	LEFT ONLY
120	\$RECYCLE.BIN\...	40	2024-03-13 15:32	LEFT ONLY
121	\$RECYCLE.BIN\...	129	2024-06-08 16:23	LEFT ONLY
122	.sync.ffs_db	45025	2026-03-10 15:35	DIFFERENT
123	0_archives\Gha...	4750895	2018-06-07 06:34	IDENTICAL
124	0_archives\Gha...	1120679	2019-02-12 08:50	IDENTICAL
125	0_archives\Gha...	642316	2018-07-19 07:42	IDENTICAL
126	0_archives\Gha...	30687	2018-12-31 09:21	IDENTICAL
127	0_archives\Gha...	270336	2019-03-12 07:22	IDENTICAL
128	0_archives\Gha...	57429	2019-01-29 19:48	IDENTICAL
129	0_archives\Mor...	610849	2019-02-10 15:48	IDENTICAL

	File	Size	Modified	Status
117				
118				
119				
120				
121				
122	.sync.ffs_db	91801	2026-03-11 11:32	DIFFERENT
123	0_archives\Gha...	4750895	2018-06-07 06:34	IDENTICAL
124	0_archives\Gha...	1120679	2019-02-12 08:50	IDENTICAL
125	0_archives\Gha...	642316	2018-07-19 07:42	IDENTICAL
126	0_archives\Gha...	30687	2018-12-31 09:21	IDENTICAL
127	0_archives\Gha...	270336	2019-03-12 07:22	IDENTICAL
128	0_archives\Gha...	57429	2019-01-29 19:48	IDENTICAL
129	0_archives\Mor...	610849	2019-02-10 15:48	IDENTICAL

Drop the file number and status columns and display only the first folder level and the files present in the selected left and right folders

Below is a **simplified two-pane version** reflecting your request:

Changes made:

- ✓ **Removed the Status column**
- ✓ **Only shows files directly inside the selected folders (no recursion)**
- ✓ **Displays only: File, Size, Modified**
- ✓ **Two panes like WMatch**
- ✓ **Copy → and ← still work**

This behaves more like the **original WMatch browsing view**, where you look at the contents of the two currently selected directories.

WMatch Simple Two-Pane

Left Browse Left Right Browse Right

Refresh ← Copy Copy →

	File	Size	Modified		File	Size	Modified
1	.sync.ffs_db	45025	2026-03-10 15:35	1	.sync.ffs_db	91801	2026-03-11 11:32
2	cross_canada_news_gat...	2129	2012-03-12 10:28	2	cross_canada_news_gat...	2129	2012-03-12 10:28
3	default.htm	4220	2025-11-30 11:06	3	default.htm	4220	2025-11-30 11:06
4	dont-forget.png	65711	2026-03-04 21:08	4	dont-forget.png	65711	2026-03-04 21:08
5	EUMONBMP.SYS	273408	2026-03-09 19:58	5	extract_patchmypc_upd...	921	2026-01-28 16:46
6	extract_patchmypc_upd...	921	2026-01-28 16:46	6	index.htm	218	2024-12-20 10:38
7	index.htm	218	2024-12-20 10:38	7	linux.htm	2695	2026-03-06 11:27
8	linux.htm	2695	2026-03-06 11:27	8	lockbox	134217728	2026-03-11 11:16
9	lockbox	134217728	2026-03-11 11:16	9	red_folder.kdbx	44990	2026-03-06 11:28
10	red_folder.kdbx	44990	2026-03-06 11:28	10	skiing.png	512429	2025-12-16 18:42
11	skiing.png	512429	2025-12-16 18:42	11	sync.ffs_db	96079	2026-03-11 18:50
12	sync.ffs_db	47598	2026-03-11 18:50	12	thunderbird.msf	1233	2025-09-01 20:34
13	thunderbird.msf	1233	2025-08-07 19:01	13	touch.exe	35840	2013-11-13 07:58
14	touch.exe	35840	2013-11-13 07:58				
15	{4D9EEB52-875E-457F-9...	4096	2026-03-09 19:59				

Logical Next Step (Very Important)

To make this behave **much more like the original WMatch**, the next features would be:

1 Directory navigation rows

```
..  
subfolder1  
subfolder2
```



2 Enter folder on double-click

3 File comparison indicators

Instead of a column, highlight rows.

4 Keyboard navigation

WMatch was heavily keyboard driven.

If you'd like, I can also show you a **much nicer UI layout** that replicates the **classic Norton Commander / WMatch interface**, which turns out to be **much simpler to implement and far more usable**.

Give me the nicer UI layout that replicates the classic WMatch interface

To better replicate the classic feel of utilities like WMatch and Norton Commander, the UI should look like this:

```
-----
Left Folder: C:\DATA                                Right Folder: D:\BACKUP
-----
Name      Size   Date   | Name      Size   Date
-----
..        ..        ..        | ..        ..        ..
docs/     docs/     docs/     | docs/     docs/     docs/
notes.txt 1200   2025-01-04 | notes.txt 1200   2025-01-04
report.doc 8400   2025-02-12 | report.doc 8400   2025-02-12
image.jpg 5200   2024-11-22 |
-----
[Refresh]  [+ Copy]  [Copy →]
```

Key improvements:

- ✓ Folder path displayed above each pane
- ✓ Folders shown in the file list
- ✓ Double-click to enter folders
- ✓ `..` entry to go up a directory
- ✓ Keyboard-friendly layout
- ✓ Two synchronized panes



C:\Users\toaster

	Name	Size	Modified
1	..		
2	[.android]		2021-10-08 13:07
3	[.atom]		2021-02-22 17:08
4	[.azuredatstudio]		2023-07-04 12:32
5	[.cache]		2023-12-22 15:43
6	[.config]		2018-11-05 22:57
7	[.dbus-keyrings]		2026-03-04 20:47
8	[.designer]		2023-09-24 19:50
9	[.Epubor_Keys]		2022-08-25 21:47
10	[.Icecream Screen ...]		2020-01-18 15:11
11	[.ollama]		2024-09-03 21:16
12	[.openjfx]		2020-02-15 14:47
13	[.p2]		2018-11-05 20:54
14	[.Plays.tv]		2017-02-22 14:57
15	[.QtWebEngineProcess]		2017-02-22 14:57

C:\Users\toaster

	Name	Size	Modified
1	..		
2	[.android]		2021-10-08 13:07
3	[.atom]		2021-02-22 17:08
4	[.azuredatstudio]		2023-07-04 12:32
5	[.cache]		2023-12-22 15:43
6	[.config]		2018-11-05 22:57
7	[.dbus-keyrings]		2026-03-04 20:47
8	[.designer]		2023-09-24 19:50
9	[.Epubor_Keys]		2022-08-25 21:47
10	[.Icecream Screen ...]		2020-01-18 15:11
11	[.ollama]		2024-09-03 21:16
12	[.openjfx]		2020-02-15 14:47
13	[.p2]		2018-11-05 20:54
14	[.Plays.tv]		2017-02-22 14:57
15	[.QtWebEngineProcess]		2017-02-22 14:57

Refresh

← Copy

Copy →

This version has lost the ability to select folders for the left and right panes. Please add this feature back in.

You're right — the previous version relied on navigating from the home directory and **removed the explicit folder selection**, which the original WMatch allowed. Below is an improved version that restores this capability while keeping the **commander-style two-pane layout**.

What was added back

- ✓ Browse buttons for left and right panes
- ✓ Manual path entry in the path field (press Enter to jump there)
- ✓ All previous features remain:
 - folder navigation (`[..]`)
 - double-click directory entry
 - copy between panes
 - refresh

Save as

wmatch_commander_style_v2.py



Folder: D:\

Browse

	Name	Size	Modified
1	[\$RECYCLE.BIN]		2025-01-04 15:07
2	[0_archives]		2026-03-04 11:31
3	[adb]		2025-11-11 12:07
4	[agtemp]		2026-03-11 16:59
5	[alan]		2026-03-08 21:17
6	[alan_and_carol_home_page]		2025-12-04 14:49
7	[bats]		2026-03-07 10:32
8	[nikon]		2026-01-29 16:53
9	[OneDriveFiles]		2025-10-28 08:39
10	[original]		2026-03-11 16:20
11	[receipts]		2026-03-11 10:33
12	[Road Safety Research]		2024-09-12 21:20
13	[System Volume Information]		2023-12-11 10:09
14	[thunderbird]		2026-03-05 14:09
15	[thunderbird_local_folders]		2026-03-05 13:59
16	[transfer]		2026-03-11 11:35
17	[utils]		2022-01-25 09:40

Folder: U:\

Browse

	Name	Size	Modified
1	[.Trash-1000]		2026-02-28 14:41
2	[0_archives]		2026-03-04 12:12
3	[adb]		2025-11-11 12:08
4	[agtemp]		2026-03-11 17:00
5	[alan]		2026-03-08 21:53
6	[alan_and_carol_home_page]		2025-12-04 18:02
7	[bats]		2026-03-07 10:33
8	[nikon]		2026-01-29 17:56
9	[OneDriveFiles]		2025-10-28 17:01
10	[original]		2026-03-07 20:36
11	[receipts]		2026-03-11 11:16
12	[Road Safety Research]		2025-01-24 09:12
13	[System Volume Information]		2025-10-27 17:09
14	[thunderbird]		2026-03-11 11:30
15	[thunderbird_local_folders]		2026-03-11 11:30
16	[transfer]		2026-03-11 11:32
17	[utils]		2025-01-24 09:14

Refresh

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In `wmatch_commander_style_v2.py`, can you modify the code to **drop the file numbers** and instead display a yellow folder icon to the left of each directory listing

In `wmatch_commander_style_v2.py`, directories were displayed like this:

```
[Documents]
[Projects]
file1.txt
```



You asked for two changes:

1. Remove the file number column (the Size column).
2. Display a yellow folder icon to the left of each directory instead of `[]`.

Qt already provides a standard folder icon, so we can use that instead of loading image files.

In `wmatch_commander_style_v2.py`, can you modify the code to drop the file numbers and instead display a yellow folder icon to the left of each directory listing

In `wmatch_commander_style_v2.py`, directories were displayed like this:

```
[Documents]
[Projects]
file1.txt
```



You asked for two changes:

1. Remove the file number column (the Size column).
2. Display a yellow folder icon to the left of each directory instead of `[]`.

Qt already provides a standard folder icon, so we can use that instead of loading image files.

Don't drop the size column, Don't display ordinal numbers down the left side of each pane.

Ah! Got it — you want to **keep the size column**, **remove the file numbers** (the ordinal index down the left of each pane), and display **the yellow folder icon** next to directories.

Modern WMatch Commander Style v3



D:\

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
System Volume ...		2023-12-11 10:09
thunderbird		2026-03-12 10:37
thunderbird_local_folders		2026-03-05 13:59
transfer		2026-03-12 11:38
utils		2022-01-25 09:40
wmatch		2026-03-12 16:23
z_pending		2025-09-18 12:33
.sync.ffs_db	45025	2026-03-10 15:35
cross_canada_news_gatherer...	2129	2012-03-12 10:28
default.htm	4220	2025-11-30 11:06
dont-forget.png	65711	2026-03-04 21:08
EUMONBMP.SYS	273408	2026-03-09 19:58
extract_patchmypc_updates....	922	2026-03-12 11:12
index.htm	218	2024-12-20 10:38
linux.htm	2695	2026-03-06 11:27

U:\

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
.Trash-1000		2026-02-28 14:41
0_archives		2026-03-04 12:12
adb		2025-11-11 12:08
agtemp		2026-03-11 17:00
alan		2026-03-08 21:53
alan_and_carol_home_p...		2025-12-04 18:02
bats		2026-03-07 10:33
nikon		2026-01-29 17:56
OneDriveFiles		2025-10-28 17:01
original		2026-03-12 11:39
receipts		2026-03-11 11:16
Road Safety Research		2025-01-24 09:12
System Volume ...		2025-10-27 17:09
thunderbird		2026-03-11 11:30
thunderbird_local_folders		2026-03-11 11:30

Refresh

← Copy

Copy →

Modern WMatch Commander Style v3

D:\ Browse U:\ Browse

Name	Size	Modified
SRECYCLE.BIN		2025-01-04 15:07
0_archives		2026-03-04 11:31
adb		2025-11-11 12:07
agtemp		2026-03-11 16:59
alan		2026-03-08 21:17
alan_and_carol_home_page		2025-12-04 14:49
bats		2026-03-07 10:33
New folder		2026-03-12 16:2
nikon		2026-01-29 16:53
OneDriveFiles		2025-10-28 08:39
original		2026-03-12 11:08
receipts		2026-03-11 10:33
Road Safety Research		2024-09-12 21:20
System Volume Information		2023-12-11 10:09
thunderbird		2026-03-12 10:37
thunderbird_local_folders		2026-03-05 13:59
transfer		2026-03-12 11:38

Name	Size	Modified
.Trash-1000		2026-02-28 14:41
0_archives		2026-03-04 12:12
adb		2025-11-11 12:08
agtemp		2026-03-11 17:00
alan		2026-03-08 21:53
alan_and_carol_home_page		2025-12-04 18:02
.		2026-03-07 10:33
OneDriveFiles		2025-10-28 17:01
original		2026-03-12 11:39
receipts		2026-03-11 11:16
Road Safety Research		2025-01-24 09:12
System Volume Information		2025-10-27 17:09
thunderbird		2026-03-11 11:30
thunderbird_local_folders		2026-03-11 11:30
transfer		2026-03-12 11:39
utils		2025-01-24 09:14

Double-click on each folder

Refresh ← Copy Copy →

Modern WMatch Commander Style v3

D:\alan Browse U:\alan Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
APCUG-Linux		2025-10-18 13:09
djd		2025-12-31 14:09
Excel		2026-03-11 10:35
Foundation		2025-12-11 20:25
GPS		2021-11-05 21:33
high_tech		2019-12-05 09:56
linux_north		2026-03-07 13:46
opcug		2026-03-07 20:35
pages		2017-07-11 12:04
RBC-Info		2025-03-26 17:30
RSR_2024		2025-03-17 14:46
web_site		2020-12-21 09:49
WmatchClone		2026-03-12 16:50
Word		2026-01-20 14:01

Name	Size	Modified
..		
APCUG-Linux		2025-11-01 12:50
djd		2025-12-31 15:30
Excel		2026-03-11 11:16
Foundation		2025-12-11 21:40
GPS		2025-01-24 09:04
high_tech		2025-01-24 09:04
linux_north		2026-03-07 19:28
opcug		2026-03-07 20:36
pages		2025-01-24 09:06
RBC-Info		2025-09-18 08:11
RSR_2024		2025-03-16 16:29
web_site		2025-01-24 09:07
WmatchClone		2026-03-11 21:47
Word		2026-01-20 22:32

Refresh ← Copy Copy →

And again...

Modern WMatch Commander Style v3



D:\alan\WmatchClone

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6009	2026-03-12 16:50
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

U:\alan\WmatchClone

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

Refresh

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D:\alan\WmatchClone Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6009	2026-03-12 16:50
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

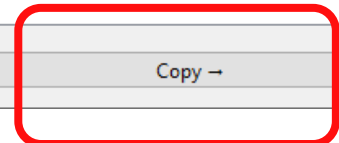
U:\alan\WmatchClone Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

Refresh

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D:\alan\WmatchClone

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6009	2026-03-12 16:50
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

U:\alan\WmatchClone

Browse

Name	Size	Modified
..		
twopane-01.png	20567	2026-03-11 18:47
twopane-02.png	29637	2026-03-11 18:48
twopane-03.png	22444	2026-03-11 18:49
twopane-04.png	51494	2026-03-11 18:49
wmatch_advanced.py	7650	2026-03-11 21:16
wmatch_commander_style.py	4848	2026-03-11 21:38
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5624	2026-03-11 21:43
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6009	2026-03-12 16:50
wmatch_level1.py	5012	2026-03-11 21:31
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3794	2026-03-08 21:18
wmatch_twopane.py	5143	2026-03-11 18:45

Refresh

← Copy

Copy →

We are making progress:

- But, sometimes the chat bot loses the plot and takes us off into the weeds!
- We have obtained a two-pane window display
- Select a folder for each pane
- Display sub-folders and files
- We lost the file colours somewhere along the way!
- Select folder to display contents
- We also lost the scroll synchronization (left and right scroll bars function independently)
- Select a file and copy works

WMatch - Compare directories

File View Action Help

Source: D:\alan\WmatchClone

Target: U:\alan\WmatchClone

FileName	Size	Date		FileName	Size	Date
twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52	✓	twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52
twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32	✓	twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32
twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18	✓	twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18
twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44	✓	twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44
wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40	✓	wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40
wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26	✓	wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08	✓	wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6,009	2026-03-12 4:50:54	←			
wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56	✓	wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00	✓	wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00
wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06	✓	wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06

Same sizes and times
 Different sizes
 Exact match
 Same sizes but different times

WMatch - Compare directories

File View Action Help

Source: D:\alan\WmatchClone

Target: U:\alan\WmatchClone

FileName	Size	Date		FileName	Size	Date
twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52	✓	twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52
twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32	✓	twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32
twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18	✓	twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18
twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44	✓	twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44
wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40	✓	wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40
wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26	✓	wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08	✓	wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6,009	2026-03-12 4:50:54	←			
wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56	✓	wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00	✓	wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00
wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06	✓	wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06

Same sizes and times Different sizes Exact match Same sizes but different times

Compare files using contents

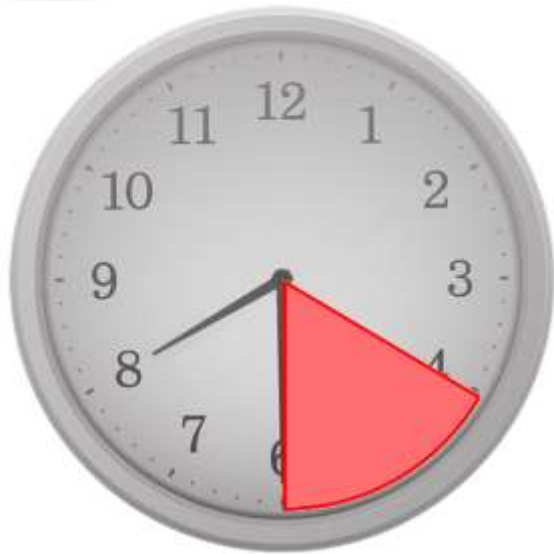
WMatch - Compare directories

File View Action Help

Source: D:\alan\WmatchClone Target: U:\alan\WmatchClone

FileName	Size	Date		FileName	Size	Date
twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52	☑	twopane-01.png	20,567	2026-03-11 6:47:52
twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32	☑	twopane-02.png	29,637	2026-03-11 6:48:32
twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18	☑	twopane-03.png	22,444	2026-03-11 6:49:18
twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44	☑	twopane-04.png	51,494	2026-03-11 6:49:44
wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40	☑	wmatch_advanced.py	7,650	2026-03-11 9:16:40
wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26	☑	wmatch_commander_style.py	4,848	2026-03-11 9:38:26
wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08	☑	wmatch_commander_style_v2.py	5,624	2026-03-11 9:43:08
wmatch_commander_style_v3.py	6,009	2026-03-12 4:50:54	⬅			
wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56	☑	wmatch_level1.py	5,012	2026-03-11 9:31:56
wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00	☑	wmatch_prototype-01.py	3,794	2026-03-08 9:19:00
wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06	☑	wmatch_twopane.py	5,143	2026-03-11 6:45:06

Same sizes and times
 Different sizes
 Exact match
 Same sizes but different times



**Any other:
Questions
Comments
Shares?**

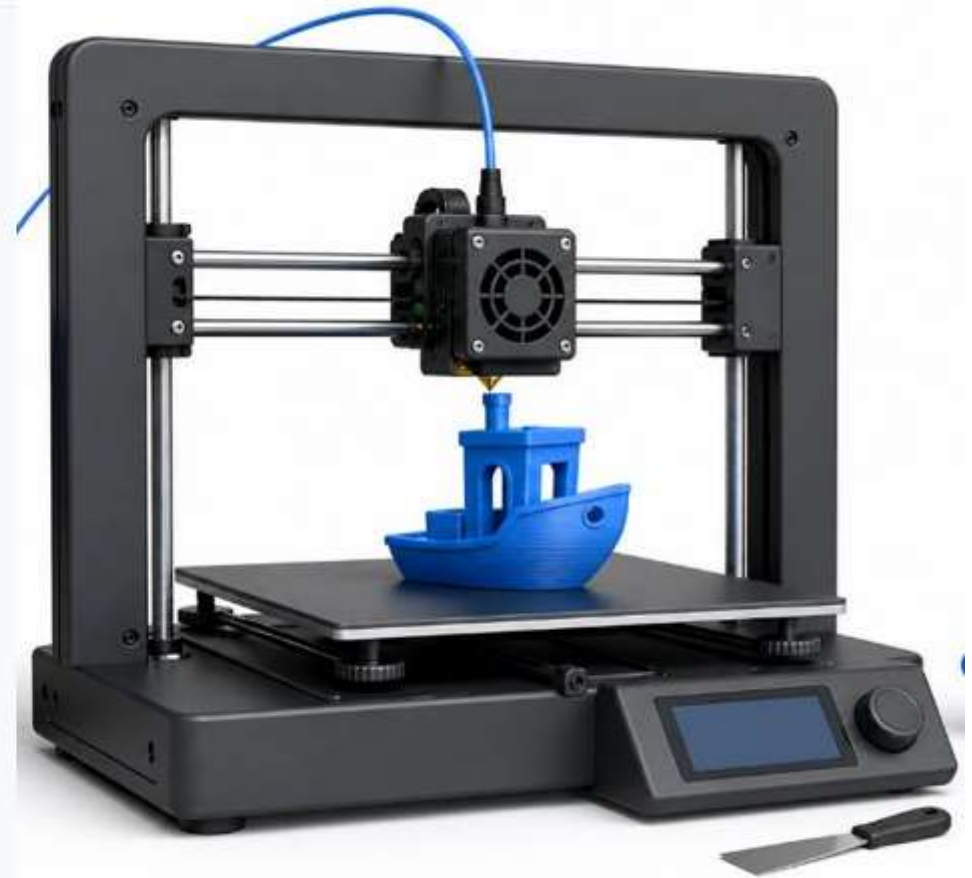
**Coming Soon!!!
(May 20th)**

3D Printing for Beginners

From idea to finished object

- A practical introduction for new makers
- learn the printer, the materials, and the workflow
- Start simple, learn steadily, print often

David Swain – May 2026





OPCUG PRESENTATIONS AT THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Protecting Your PC

Chris Taylor

Metcalfe Village, Thursday May 7, 2026 at 2:00pm

Macro/Close Up Photography

Lynda Buske

Centennial, Thursday May 7, 2026 at 6:00pm

How to Buy a Digital Camera

Chris Taylor

Carlingwood, Monday May 11, 2026 at 6:00pm

<https://booking.biblioottawalibrary.ca/en/program?text=ottawa+pc>



**Britannia Park
Trolley/Picnic Station**

June 10, 2026



**Register by E-mail to: pizzaparty2026@opcug.ca
Details: <https://opcug.ca/events/annual-pizza-night/>**

May Meeting



Ask The Geeks

Multiple Geeks
OPCUG

May 13, 2026
7:30 pm



Wanted - Your Questions!



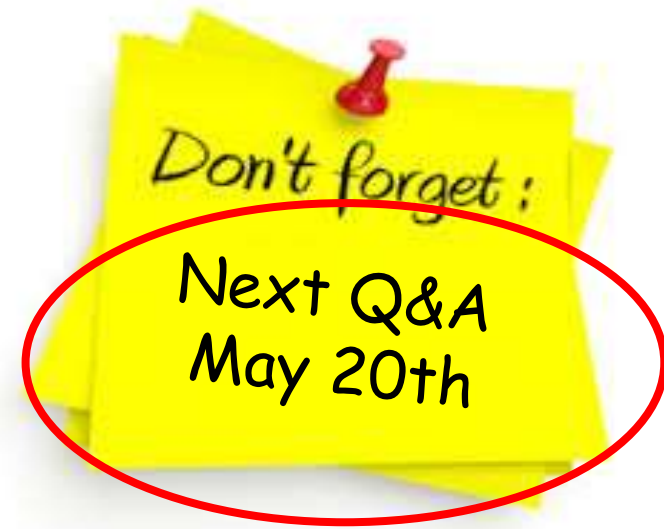
- The geeks are ready to (try to) answer your questions at the May meeting!
- **What is your question?**
- Send your question ahead of the meeting to:

alan.german@opcug.ca

** Alan promises not to look up the answer or share the question with the other geeks!*



No Q&A on
May 13
(Monthly Meeting)



**Send your questions,
answers, and topics
you wish to share to:**

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca